

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 04512 311247Z

41

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /070 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3525

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 446

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 4512

EO 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, IV

SUB: KOREA AND NONALIGNED CONFERENCE(NAC)

REF: ABIDJAN 3710

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR SPOKE WITH ROK AMBASSADOR YUNG KYOO KANG MAY 30 TO GET DETAILS OF HIS DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER USHER ON IVORY COAST POSITION REGARDING ROK MEMBERSHIP IN NAC. USHER ASSURED AMBASSADOR KANG THAT GOIC WOULD VOTE FOR ROK ADMISSION BUT WOULD NOT LOBBY OR CO-SPONSOR. AMBASSADOR KANG STILL WANTS US TO SUPPORT HIS REQUEST TO GOIC. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR KANG MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER USHER ON MAY 21 AND ASKED HIM TO LOBBY FOR ROK MEMBERSHIP IN NAC BOTH BEFORE AND DURING LIMA NAC CONFERENCE IN AUGUST AS A SPOKESMAN FOR ROK'S MEMBERSHIP. KANG GAVE USHER ALL THE ARGUMENTS ABOUT REALITIES OF NONALIGNMENTS, ETC. USHER REPLIED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO STOP NORTH KOREA'S ADMISSION TO ANY INTERNATIONAL BODY IN WHICH IT SEEKS ADMISSION, PARTICULARLY THE NAC WHERE THE MAJORITY IS LEFT-LEANING. HE AGREED THEREFORE THAT IT WAS WISE FOR ROK TO APPLY AS WELL IN ORDER TO COMPROMISE NORTH KOREA'S ROLE. HE CITED THE PRECEDENT OF THE LUSAKA NAC MEETING IN WHICH LON NOL AND SIHANOUK GOVERNMENTS BOTH APPLIED AND,

SECRET

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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 04512 311247Z

AFTER ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE, BOTH WERE TURNED DOWN. IVORY COAST ROLE

IN NAC IS LIMITED, SAID USHER. HE (AND
PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET) ATTENDED NAC FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ALGERIA
IN 1973. THUS IVORY COAST CANNOT PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE. GIVEN
IVORY COAST'S KNOWN CONSERVATIVE POSITION, USHER TOLD KANG
IT MIGHT EVEN HURT ROK'S CHANCES IF PUSHED BY GOIC. NEVERTHELESS,
USHER PROMISED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF ROK'S CANDIDATURE IF IT
COMES TO A VOTE.

3. KANG LEFT MATTERS AT THAT POINT FOR THE TIME BEING, TELLING
USHER HE WOULD COME TO SEE HIM AGAIN BEFORE THE NAC MEETING.
KANG URGED THAT WE STILL SUPPORT ROK POSITION WITH USHER, AND
AMBASSADOR PROMISED TO DO SO. WE ARE SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH
USHER AT EARLY DATE.

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